

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Previously Presented): A coloring composition comprising a dis-azo compound or poly-azo compound which contains two or more substituents having a pKa value in water of -10 to 5 and which has an oxidation potential more positive than 0.8 V (vs SCE), wherein the dis-azo compound or poly-azo compound is an azo compound represented by the following general formula (I):



wherein A, B, and C each independently represents an aromatic group which may be substituted or a heterocyclic group which may be substituted, A and C are monovalent groups and B is a divalent aromatic heterocyclic group directly bonded to the azo-nitrogen atoms.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Previously Presented): The coloring composition according to claim 1, wherein the dis-azo compound or poly-azo compound is an azo compound represented by the following general formula (II):

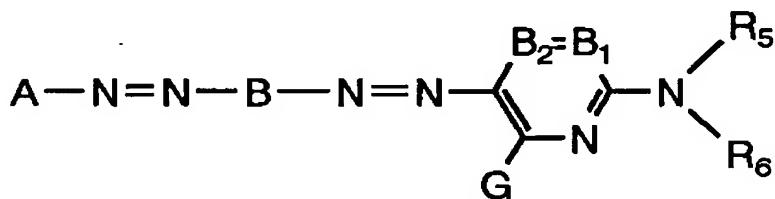


wherein A and B are the same as A and B in the general formula (I) respectively, and Het represents an aromatic heterocyclic group.

4. (Original): The coloring composition according to claim 3, wherein at least one of A and B in the general formula (II) is an aromatic heterocyclic group.

5. (Original): The coloring composition according to claim 3, wherein Het in the general formula (II) is an aromatic nitrogen-containing six-membered heterocyclic group.

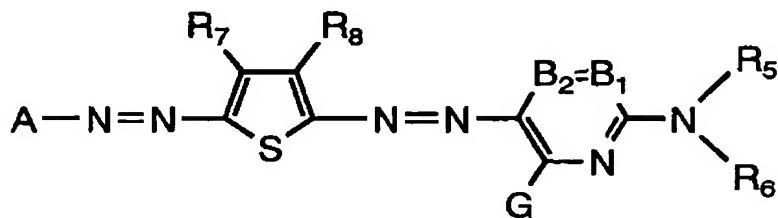
6. (Original): The coloring composition according to claim 3, wherein the dis-azo compound or poly-azo compound is an azo compound represented by the following general formula (III):



wherein A and B are the same as A and B in the general formula (II) respectively, B₁ and B₂ represent =CR₁- and -CR₂= respectively, or either one represents a nitrogen atom and the other represents =CR₁- or -CR₂=; G, R₁ and R₂ each independently represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, an aliphatic group, an aromatic group, a heterocyclic group, a cyano group, a carboxyl group, a carbamoyl group, an alkoxy carbonyl group, an aryloxycarbonyl group, a heterocyclic oxy carbonyl group, an acyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkoxy group, an aryloxy group, a heterocyclic oxy group, a silyloxy group, an acyloxy group, a carbamoyloxy group, an alkoxy carbonyloxy group, an aryloxycarbonyloxy group, an amino group (including an anilino group and a heterocyclic amino group), an acylamino group, a ureido group, a sulfamoyl amino group, an alkoxy carbonyl amino group, an aryloxycarbonyl amino group, an alkyl- or arylsulfonyl amino group, a heterocyclic sulfonyl amino group, a nitro group, an alkyl- or arylthio group, a heterocyclic thio group, an alkyl- or arylsulfonyl group, a heterocyclic sulfonyl group, an alkyl- or arylsulfinyl group, a

heterocyclic sulfinyl group, a sulfamoyl group, or a sulfo group, and each of these groups may further be substituted; R₅ and R₆ each independently represents a hydrogen atom, an aliphatic group, an aromatic group, a heterocyclic group, an acyl group, an alkoxy carbonyl group, an aryloxycarbonyl group, a carbamoyl group, an alkyl- or arylsulfonyl group, or a sulfamoyl group, and each of these groups may further be substituted, provided that R₅ and R₆ are not hydrogen atoms at the same time; and R₁ and R₅ or R₅ and R₆ may be combined to form a five-membered or six-membered ring.

7. (Original): The coloring composition according to claim 6, wherein the dis-azo compound or poly-azo compound is an azo compound represented by the following general formula (IV):



wherein A, B₁, B₂, G, R₅ and R₆ are the same as A, B₁, B₂, G, R₅ and R₆ in the general formula (III) respectively, and R₇ and R₈ are the same as R₁ in the general formula (III).

8. (Previously Presented): An inkjet recording ink composition, which comprises the coloring composition according to claim 1.

9. (Original): An inkjet recording method, wherein an image is formed on an image-receiving material comprising a support having provided thereon an ink receiving layer containing a white inorganic pigment particle, using the inkjet recording ink composition according to claim 8.

10. (Original): A method for improving ozone gas-fastness of an image formed on an image-receiving material comprising a support having provided thereon an ink receiving layer containing a white inorganic pigment particle using an inkjet recording ink composition, wherein the inkjet recording ink composition is the inkjet recording ink composition according to claim 8.

11. (Canceled).

12. (Previously Presented) An inkjet recording ink composition, which comprises the coloring composition according to claim 3.

13. (Previously Presented) An inkjet recording ink composition, which comprises the coloring composition according to claim 4.

14. (Previously Presented) An inkjet recording ink composition, which comprises the coloring composition according to claim 5.

15. (Previously Presented) An inkjet recording ink composition, which comprises the coloring composition according to claim 6.

16. (Previously Presented) An inkjet recording ink composition, which comprises the coloring composition according to claim 7.

17. (New): The coloring composition according to claim 1, wherein the heterocyclic group of B is selected from the group consisting of a thiophene ring, a thiazole ring, an imidazole ring, a benzothiazole ring and a thienothiazole ring.